

DRAWING AMENDMENTS

Replacement drawing page 1 is enclosed with this Response and Amendment.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

With regards to the objection to the drawings, Applicant herewith submits a revised drawing page wherein the exact language used in the classic American novel The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain is replaced with the terminology “offensive language” per the examiner’s requirement.

Next, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for the claimed invention allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter, it is true the invention is essentially a method of a selective display of visual material. Further, it is also true that the invention must have practical utility, it must produce an assured result and it must not be merely an abstraction lacking in physical substance so as to be patentable subject matter. With respect to the present invention, the Examiner asserts that the claimed invention does not produce a tangible result in the sense that “it merely manipulates abstract ideas without producing a physical transformation or conversion of the subject matter expressed in the claim so as to produce a change of character or condition in some physical object.” However, Applicant’s invention, as currently amended in claim 1, does produce a change of character or condition in some physical object so as to yield a tangible result.

As stated in Applicant’s first Response and Amendment, “the claimed invention does produce a tangible result in the sense that it produces a physical transformation upon pre-existing material so as to change the character or condition of the pre-existing material. For instance, whereas the excerpt from The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain displayed in Applicant’s Figure 1 is objectionable to the examiner, many schools and

libraries and the public at large, Applicant's Figure 2 wherein Applicant's invention is used on the excerpt, is not objectionable. Thus, the character and condition of the pre-existing material has changed from offensive to permissive by utilizing Applicant's invention. The tangible result is an offensive-free excerpt from an American literary classic." However, the Examiner states that Applicant "in no way claim[s] any tangible medium or pre-existing material of any sort (*i.e.*, printed matter or computer readable medium), therefore the entire process can be effectively carried out in a person's imagination rather than on a tangible medium as required." As Applicant has now amended claim 1 so as to limit the invention to use on a tangible medium, the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 should now be moot.

In addition, the Examiner has again asserted that Applicant's invention does not fall within the useful or technological arts and, as such, is not patentable subject matter. Because the Examiner made no comment to Applicant's response to this objection in his first Response and Amendment, Applicant once again states that "the tangible result falls within the useful arts. Although no technology is disclaimed, the useful art wherein the tangible result is applied is within the public as a whole. Many persons are prevented from reading literary works as many of these classics contain offensive material, be it racial, sexual, religious or otherwise and are therefore banned from many public school systems. Rather than simply removing the offensive material to make the work 'safe', the books are removed in their entireties from the schools, thereby preventing entire generations from reading classic literary novels. Thus, the tangible result of permitting individuals to read classic literary

novels safely promotes the useful arts.” Therefore, the subject matter of the invention as now claimed is patentable subject matter.

Next, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), Examiner asserts that Applicant’s invention is anticipated by the Kasha patent as the Kasha patent discloses “all of the elements of the claims including with reference to claim 1, identifying material to be banned and using an unoffensive symbol in place of the material to be banned.” Applicant previously argued that Kasha does not anticipate the claims since the adhesive flaps of Kasha do not actually replace the material to be banned since a user would still be able to view the material to be banned simply by lifting the flap. The Examiner states that the Kasha patent reads “on Applicants claim language since the box adhesive replaces that text material when viewed.” As such, Applicant has amended claim 1 so as the box is permanent and non-movable. Therefore, as newly amended claim 1 claims a permanent and non-movable box, which is in opposition to Kasha’s temporary and moveable box, Applicant’s invention is no longer anticipated by the Kasha invention.

Finally, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for obviousness reasons in view of the Cragun *et al.* patent, although it is true that the Cragun *et al.* invention discloses a method for identifying material to be banned and using an unoffensive symbol in place of the material to be banned and the Examiner has taken notice that the use of black out boxes sized to replace an entire area to be blocked out is “notoriously well known in a variety of contexts”, Applicant’s invention is not obvious in view of the Cragun *et al.* patent as Applicant’s invention as currently claimed in currently

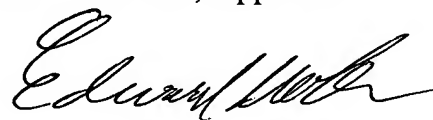
amended claim 1 teaches identifying the material to be banned on a tangible, printed medium, rather than for "internet viewing" as taught by the Cragun *et al.* patent.

In addition, Applicant has amended claim 1 to teach a box having a same color as a background of said tangible, printed medium. In this manner, a "black box" is not used, but rather a box that appears to be the same coloring as the background of the printed medium, thereby invoking a person to use his or her creativity and imagination to fill in the box, rather than skipping over the blocked out word and not thinking about what word was censored. Therefore, it would not have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to combine the Cragun *et al.* invention with the use of black boxes to create Applicant's currently amended invention.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes the examiner will now find this patent application in a position for allowance and its expeditious passage to same is requested.

Should the examiner disagree or have any questions, comments or suggestions that will render this application allowable, a call to the undersigned attorney of record is invited.

Respectfully submitted,
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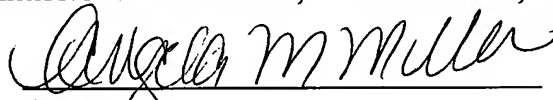


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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the above Request for Continued Examination ("RCE") is being deposited with the United States Postal Service by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service, U.S. Express Mail No. EQ 154346334 US, on the 28th day of November, 2005, addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Attorney